

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00007 040412Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----040416Z 062544 /63
P 040319Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1304

S E C R E T SEOUL 0007

EXDIS

E.O.. 11#52: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT KS US
SUBJ: MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT PARK AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER
KIM CHONG-PIL

1. AT THE REQUEST OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL,
(KCP) "MICKEY" KIM CAME TO SEE ME JANUARY 4 TO PROVIDE BRIEF
SUM UP OF MEETING BETWEEN KCP AND PRESIDENT PARK DECEMBER
31. PLEASE PROTECT BOTH SOURCES OF INFORMATION.
2. KCP REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT PARK WAS VERY SATISFIED AND HAPPY
WITH "SETTLEMENT" OF PENDING ISSUES RELATING TO INVESTIGATION
OF ALLEGED KOREAN LOBBYING ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING HANDLING
OF ALLEGED BUGGING OF BLUE HOUSE. PRESIDENT PARK SAID THAT
HE CONSIDERED THE CASES CLOSED AND THE ISSUES SETTLED AS FAR
AS HE WAS CONCERNED. WHEN KCP REMINDED HIM THAT INVESTIGATION
WAS STILL UNDER WAY, PARK RESPONDED THAT HE RECOGNIZED THIS
BUT HE FELT NOTHING NEW WOULD EMERGE FROM THESE INVESTIGATIONS.
IF OTHER REPORTS DID EMERGE, PARK SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT
THESE AND NOT REACT.
3. ACCORDING TO KCP, HE SUGGESTED TO PARK THAT THIS WAS THE
RIGHT STRATEGY AND ROKG SHOULD NOW FOCUS ON "FUNDAMENTAL"
ISSUES BETWEEN US AND KOREA. HE SUGGESTED PARK MIGHT SEND
HIGH LEVEL ENVOY ON FACT-FINDING MISSION TO US SO THAT PARK

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WOULD BE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT US OPINION. PARK DID NOT REACT
AND SAID THAT HE WOULD THINK ABOUT THIS SUGGESTION.

4. ACCORDING TO MICKEY KIM, KCP FELT THAT PARK WAS NOT AS WELL
INFORMED AS HE SHOULD BE ON THE DETAILS OF US-ROK PROBLEMS,
BOTH THE RECENT ISSUES AND BROADER PROBLEMS; KCP IS PARTI-
CULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE IN THIS RESPECT.

HE OBVIOUSLY WOULD LIKE TO FULFILL SPECIAL ENVOY ROLE, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SUGGEST THIS DIRECTLY TO PARK. I SHALL HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE FULLER DISCUSSION WITH KCP IN NEAR FUTURE. HE IS PRESENTLY PLANNING A TRIP TO EUROPE THIS SPRING, WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH PRESIDENT PARK. HE HAS IN MIND STOPPING IN US IN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, IF PARK DECIDES NOT TO SEND OFFICIAL ENVOY.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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